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Message Text

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50/43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-10 AID-05 /094 W
---------- 031412
R 121353Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4528
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 5845

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 5845 VICE 5843)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EG, LY, UR
SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS ON QADHAAFI EVACUATION DAY CEREMONIES

1. ALL THREE ARABIC LANGUAGE DAILIES JUNE 12 CARRY FRONT PAGE REPORTS "ALL ARAB COUNTRIES SHUNNED QADHAAFI'S FESTIVAL" (JUNE 11 EVACUATION DAY CEREMONIES), WITH EXCEPTION OF PDRY PM MUHAMMAD ALI NASSIR WHO, REPORTEDLY, WAS IN LIBYA FOR OTHER REASONS. ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS, ONLY OTHER FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE WAS "DEPUTY" OF SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNY.

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2. NOTING THAT QADHAAFI OPENED CEREMONIES BY RIDING INTO

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WHEELUS AIR FORCE BASE ON WHITE STALLION,EGYPTIAN PRESS COMMENTS THAT "ARAB CIRCLES WONDERED WHETHER QADHAAFI WAS CELEBRATING REMOVAL OF AMERICANS FROM WHEELUS OR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SOVIET MILITARY BASES. SOME SAID THAT PRESENCE OF PODGORNY'S "DEPUTY" AND ABSENCE OF ALL ARAB COUNTRIES WAS THE REPLY."

3. STORIES CONTINUE WITH REPORTS THAT SECURITY AROUND QADHAAFI WAS TIGHTENED FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF "THREATENING MESSAGES" FROM MERCHANTS IN TOBRUK AND MUSSA'ID. QADHAAFI HAD REPORTEDLY ORDERED STORES THERE CLOSED AND MERCHANDISE CONFISCATED ON "PRETEXT" THAT GOODS WERE BEING SMUGGLED TO EGYPT.

4.REPORTS ADD THAT ON JUNE 11 MAJOR JALLUD WARNED BRITAIN, IRAN AND JORDAN THAT LIBYA WOULD BACK REVOLUTIONARY FORCES IN GULF STATES UNLESS THEY WITHDREW MILITARY SUPPORT FROM OMAN GOVERNMENT.

5. ON LIBYAN PROPAGANDA EFFORTS, CAIRO STORIES NOTE THAT VP MUBARAK'S DELEGATION DENIED LIBYAN STORY THAT MUBARAK HAD MET ISRAELI MIN DEF PERES IN PARIS, LABELLING ALLEGATION "RIDICULOUS LIE THAT DOES NOT DESERVE COMMENT". IN LEBANON, GOL REPORTEDLY "CONFISCATED" AND RECOMMENDED SIX MONTH SUSPENSION OF TWO LIBYAN FINANCED LEBANESE NEWSPAPERS (AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI AND AS SAFIR). IN KUWAIT, QADHAAFI HAS REPORTEDLY INAUGURATED ANTI-EGYPT CAMPAIGN UNDER AUSPICES OF NEW ORGANIZATION CALLED "THE ARAB ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL ACTION".

6. IN AKHBAR EDITORIAL JUNE 12, WRITER CALLS ON "ARAB NATION" TO SAVE "STRUGGLING LIBYAN PEOPLE" FROM "ISOLATION AND DESOLATION" INTO WHICH QADHAAFI HAS LED THEM. HE COMMENTS THAT "STORIES THROWN BY THE MAD COLONEL HIT INNOCENT PASSERS-BY...AND MAY HAVE MORE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES". ARABS SHOULD NOT TREAT PROBLEM LIGHTLY, "FOR SUCH FOOLISHNESS CAN KILL".
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